

diversity of innovation and the impact of their efforts throughout the community of Northwest Indiana. The 2011–2012 individuals named Society Fellows are as follows: Mayor Jon Costas, of Valparaiso, has worked hard to ensure that the City of Valparaiso is an innovative leader. Revitalizing the downtown area, creating a new urban park, improving the city's infrastructure, and launching a citywide bus service, as well as a commuter bus to Chicago, are some of the many outstanding projects completed under the direction of Mayor Costas. Robert Johnson III is the President/CEO of Cimcor, Inc., Merrillville. Robert developed cutting edge information technology security software that takes real time change detection to the next level by offering instant remediation of unauthorized changes. This security software system is used by the United States Army and the National Nuclear Security Administration, among others. Julie Rizzo is the President of US Greenworks, LLC and is also Executive Director of My Choice Recycling, Saint John. Julie's network of granite recycling centers has saved an estimated five million pounds of granite and stone scraps from being dumped into landfills nationwide. Angela Hambling, Principal of Rolling Prairie Elementary School in La Porte County, created an offsite activities center that is used to improve the educational outcome of underserved minority students. Angela, along with school administrators and teachers, was able to help over 100 students this past year. As a result of this exceptional program, the school's status was raised to "exemplary." Janet Brown, Ph.D. is the Dean of the College of Nursing, Valparaiso University. Under Dr. Brown's direction, the College of Nursing's enrollment went from 25 students to 350 undergraduate students, 45 master's program students, and 28 doctoral students. Dr. Brown also initiated the overseas "cultural immersion" experiences for nursing students.

The recipient of the Chanute Prize for Team Innovation is: IVDiagnostics at Entech Innovation Center, Valparaiso. IVDiagnostics launched a new diagnostic tool to help in the fight against cancer by indentifying rare circulating tumor cells in vivo. This procedure is non-toxic and also helps to eliminate issues that arise in current methods, which calculate high false positives and negatives. Preclinical studies have been conducted at two medical centers which illustrate the effectiveness of this innovative technology.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding innovators on being named Society Fellows and the Chanute Prize recipient. Their dedication and commitment to innovation is truly an inspiration. Their years of hard work have played a major role in shaping future development in Northwest Indiana and communities worldwide, and each recipient is worthy of the highest praise.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, I was unable to attend the first vote of a Point of Order for Un-

funded Mandate on H.R. 3630 raised by Representative MOORE. The Chair then called a Question of Consideration to Rule for H.R. 3630.

As you know, the House was not scheduled to be in Session this week and Monday evening I held a listening event with concerned citizens in the town of Savoy. I could not, in good conscience, cancel on a group that had been on my schedule for several months. On Tuesday, December 13, 2011, I was traveling from my district to Washington, DC, when this unanticipated Point of Order was raised.

Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows: for Question of Consideration of the Resolution, I would have voted "yea."

REMEMBERING MRS. GRACE TYSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness but with great respect that I take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Mrs. Grace Tyson, of East Chicago, Indiana. Mrs. Tyson's many contributions to the Northwest Indiana community as a civil servant and as a leader within her church are worthy of our deepest admiration. Grace passed away at the age of 103 on Friday, November 25, 2011, but the impact and influence she has had on her community will surely live on for generations to come.

Grace Tyson was born in Unity, Illinois, to Mary and Dee McConde. She attended elementary school in Unity, Illinois, graduated from high school in Sandusky, Illinois, and later attended college in Carbondale, Illinois. In 1940, she married Charles Tyson and they settled down in the city of East Chicago, Indiana. Grace graduated with distinction from Beauty and Cosmetology School in Gary, Indiana, in 1945. Her lifelong career as a licensed cosmetologist and beautician lasted 51 years, until her retirement in 1996. Grace joined Saint Mark African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in the early 1940s. She became a faithful member of the church and Missionary Society, holding the offices of President and Secretary.

Throughout her life, Mrs. Tyson gave of her time to serve those in need. She was very passionate about helping others, and her life was centered around this type of work. She was one of the very first individuals to serve as a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels, a position she held for over five years. She was a member of the Women's Improvement Club of East Chicago, for which she served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Grace also became the area representative and delegate for senior citizens at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. For her truly impressive determination to improve the lives of so many, she was awarded the Governor's Proclamation for her years of service. Grace was known as a quiet, effective leader who served as a positive role model for many young men and women throughout the community of Northwest Indiana.

While Grace Tyson was always active in her community and her church, she cherished her

time with her family the most. She leaves to cherish her memory her nieces, Mary Perry and Martha Brownlee; nephew, Tommy (Gwendolyn) Daniel; godson, Edward Williams; and special neighbor Anna Williams; as well as many grand nieces and nephews. She will also be greatly missed by her many friends, neighbors, club members, and caretakers.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Grace Tyson for her outstanding devotion to her community in Northwest Indiana. Her unselfish and lifelong dedication to those in need is worthy of the highest commendation. Grace's selflessness was an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to have represented her in Congress.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES MARK McNATT

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. James Mark McNatt, a remarkable Texan who died on July 31, 2011. James was born in Denton, TX to James Arby and Margaret Revell McNatt and in 1966 he married the love of his life, Judy Blankenship. James and Judy went on to raise three children in Carthage, TX and James was the proud grandfather to seven grandchildren.

As a young man, James served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany for two years. In 2007 he retired from East Texas Medical Center in Carthage after 25 years of service. James was a respected member of the New Life Baptist Church and The Gideons International, and was known to have the perfect scripture for any situation.

James loved his life in Carthage, where he resided for 28 years. All three of his children went to Carthage High School, where James and Judy could always be found cheering in the stands, working in the concession stand, or helping behind the scenes. James never stopped being an active community member—whether it was volunteer work or running his snowcone stand in the summer. Judy has worked for the local radio station for 20 years.

In 2002, James was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, but he never skipped a beat. James and Judy still continued to travel to see the grandchildren's dance recitals, cheer competitions, and soccer games and visit the Longview Fire Station where his son was a firefighter. James adamantly believed a cure for Parkinson's was possible and planned for guests of his memorial to make donations to the American Parkinson's Disease Association. James also served time on the board of the local American Heart Association chapter.

His family will remember James as a man of faith and perseverance. One who made it a priority to have the whole family together, making sure the annual White Elephant Gift Exchange was on the calendar and one who loved others unconditionally.

James is survived by his wife for 45 years, Judy McNatt, daughters Jennifer Mattingly and husband Chris, Jessica Huff and husband Bill, and son (James) Michael McNatt and wife Melinda. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Molly and Riley Mattingly; Baylee,